



NEW RADNOR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

RADNORSHIRE

JOINT
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1964

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(including Parish they represent)

AND

CHIEF OFFICERS

J. E. Hughes (Chairman) - LLANDEGLEY

J. H. Evans (Vice-Chairman) - EVENJOBB

A. L. Price	- COLVA	C. T. Davies	- LLANFIHANGEL
J. T. Edwards	- EDNICL	S. K. Williams	- MICHAELCHURCH
Idris Lloyd	- GLADESTRY	I. Lloyd	- NEWCHURCH
C. T. Davies	- GLASCWM	J. Lloyd (diseased)	- NEW RADNOR
Mrs. I. Harley-Davies	- GLASCWM	D. T. Evans	- OLD RADNOR
B. D. R. Ball	- HARPTON	J. G. Teft	- TREWERN
V. T. Jones	- KINNERTON	E. L. Mills	- WALTON
		P. S. Hughes	-

Clerk and Chief Financial Officer - (H. Ll. Pugh (resigned)
(R. A. Davies

Medical Officer of Health - Dr. R. H. Jobson

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector - L. Allen, M.A.P.H.I.

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To the Chairman and Members of the New Radnor R.D. Council

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen

In presenting this Joint Annual Report I wish to thank Mr. L. Allen your Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, for his contribution towards it and for his co-operation in the past year.

Richard H. Jobson
Medical Officer of Health

1. STATISTICS IN THE AREA

Area (in acres)	51,892
Number of inhabited houses	676
Population	2,040
Rateable Value (as at 31.12.63)	£28,964
Sum represented by a ld. Rate	£112

2. VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
(a) Live Births (legitimate)	33	20	13
" " (illgitimate)	1	NIL	1
	34	20	14

(b) Still Births	2	2	NIL
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(c) Infant Mortality

(i)	Death of infants under 1 year	-	1 Male
(ii)	" " " " 4 weeks	-	1 Male
(iii)	" " " " 1 week	-	1 Male
(iv)	" from puerperal causes	-	NIL

(d) Causes of death - Statistics provided by the Registrar General

	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>
10 Malignant neoplasm Stomach	2		2
11 Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	11		1
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	1	1
15 Leukaemia, Aloukaemia	1	1	
17 Vascular Lesions of nervous system	3	1	2
18 Coronary disease angina	3	2	1
20 Other heart disease	2	1	1
21 Other circulatory disease	2	2	
24 Bronchitis	1	1	
31 Congenital malformations	2	1	1
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	1	
33 Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	1	
TOTALS	21	12	9

3. INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The district has remained comparatively free from infectious and other diseases during the year under review.

4. TUBERCULOSIS

The County Medical Officer deals with all aspects of this disease.

5. NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

The County Council is the responsible Authority for the execution of this Act.

(a) Laboratory Facilities - These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory at Hereford and the Public Analyst's Laboratory at Carmarthen.

6. WATER SUPPLIES

With two exceptions, water supplied through public water mains was adequate throughout the year, in spite of the extensive dry spell of weather in late summer and autumn. A large number of properties supplied by private wells and springs were, however, without water, and great inconvenience was caused to occupiers of these properties.

The two exceptions referred to above were in the Gladestry and Glasgwm village areas. Both of these supplies have now been in existence for 30 years. Although the sources of supply held out the main delivery pipe from the reservoir to the village, (in each case) is of small diameter, and partially corroded up, and at peak draw-off periods, insufficient water is reaching the respective village to maintain their needs. This has resulted in shortage of water and great inconvenience to houses sited in elevated positions. These conditions have been aggravated by some wastage of water.

New Radnor Extended Water Supply

The view had been expressed by some members of the Council that the Harley Valley Stream, supplying water for this scheme, would not be sufficient in dry weather to keep this supply going. The source of supply remained ample, and the Council are now considering extensions to this scheme, to other parts of the parishes and townlands of Kinnerton, Ednol, Trewern, Weythal, Evanjobb and Stanner.

Franksbridge Water Supply

This supply has demanded constant supervision, but no breakdown occurred throughout the year. The additional screen installed at stream intake to this supply, whilst still choking up, is now more accessible for cleaning.

Llandegley Water Supply

It should be noted that this water supply which is obtained from the Birmingham Aqueduct (via Rhayader R.D.C.) now contains fluoride.

SAMPLINGS

Samples of both public and private supplies have been taken, and where necessary advice was given to improve these supplies.

Out of 34 samples of water taken, 8 were found to be unsatisfactory. These unsatisfactory samples were taken from private springs and wells and from the Franksbridge water supply. The adverse sample taken from the Franksbridge supply was due to insufficient chlorine being put into this water. With the additional supervision that this water supply has been receiving, conditions have been satisfactory.

No. of dwellings supplied with water are given below:-

Parish	Number of properties			Estimated Population served
	with mains supply of water		supplied by private and/or public wells and/or springs	
	into house	by standpipe		
Colva	—	—	22	66
Ednol	—	—	5	15
Evanjobb	23	7	38	207
Gladestry	22	7	35	192
Glascwm	13	5	43	183
Harpton	9	—	12	63
Kinnerton	4	—	33	111
Llandegley	41	—	32	219
Llanfihangel	—	—	27	81
Michaelchurch	—	—	22	78
Newchurch	—	—	22	69
New Radnor	86	5	22	339
Old Radnor	36	11	37	250
Trewern	—	—	16	54
Walton	23	—	18	123
TOTALS	257	35	384 *	2050

* A large percentage of these dwellings have a supply of water piped into the house from their own private source.

7. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE DISPOSAL

Of the 4 small sewerage disposal plants in the district, two (at Gladestry and Evanjobb) deal with the sewerage from their respective housing sites, and are working to full capacity. These tanks have to be de-sludged twice yearly. The other 2 sewerage disposal plants at Llandegley and New Radnor receive sewerage from housing sites and private dwellings.

In view of the adverse reports they have now been receiving for several years regarding some of the unsatisfactory conditions that exist, both in and around New Radnor village, the Council considered providing a drainage scheme for this village and making an extension to their existing treatment works (They would already appear to own sufficient ground for extensions to the treatment works). They resolved however that consideration of this matter be deferred for six months. It is to be hoped that some more definite progress will be made when this matter comes up for reconsideration.

8. REFUSE COLLECTION

House Refuse

The Council reviewed their collection of house refuse and agreed that instead of a monthly collection throughout the year, they would have a monthly collection during January to May and September to December, and a twice monthly collection from June to August. Whilst this is a step in the right direction, private house occupiers are still going to have extreme difficulty in storing a month's house refuse on their premises for three quarters of the year.

The collection of refuse will continue to be carried out by a private contractor, and disposal will be by controlled tipping on three sites in the area.

Litter Bins

The district Council are also responsible for emptying roadside litter bins, which have been provided by the County Council in laybys. These bins are emptied monthly from October to March, and twice monthly from April to September.

These lay-bys continue to be an eyesore due to spillage of rubbish from these bins, and also to people disposing of their refuse in the lay-bys in the hope that someone will place it in the bin for them. This problem is aggravated still further when it is considered that a lot of this rubbish is made up of broken bottles, resulting in danger to other users of these lay-bys and to stock from the nearby farms.

The general public should be educated at a very early age to "TAKE THEIR LITTER HOME".

9. NUISANCE

Considerable concern has been expressed at all levels of local government at the growing number of complaints being received regarding the emission of dust and effluvia from the three stone quarrying plants in the area and also from excessive vibrations and noise that occurs when blasting operations are being carried out.

The quarry owners concerned have intimated by letter that they will be carrying out extensive modifications and improvements to their existing equipment in order to minimise the emission of dust and effluvia from their plant.

10. HOUSING

Once again it can be stated that the general condition of the houses in the district has been improved and additional amenities have been provided in these houses.

Slum Clearance

During the year, four dwelling houses were scheduled as being unfit for human habitation and thirteen unfit houses were made fit.

Every effort has been made to keep the housing survey programme up to date, and at the end of the year it was:-

No. of Houses	Categories				
	1	2	3	4	5
676	213	76	269	83	24

Private Building

The erection of 2 new dwelling houses was completed during the year.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Below are the figures comparing the number of grants approved, with those for previous years:-

Discretionary

Year	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
No. of applications approved	NIL	1	1	NIL	3
Amount of grant approved	NIL	£400	£355	NIL	£918

Standard

Year	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
No. of applications approved	4	2	5	4	1

Numerous enquiries have been received in respect of the amendments to grants in general and to the standard grant in particular and it is anticipated that greater use will be made of them.

11. CARAVANS

There are now 11 individual caravan sites in the area. Some of these are sited in private gardens and are used in conjunction with the dwelling house.

At the one holiday caravan site in the area, it is proposed to carry out improvements to raise the standard. These proposed improvements include for additional lavatories, a wash house and shower, all sited in a permanent building.

A caravan site was opened in the parish of Walton, without any approvals having been first obtained. Numerous complaints were received of dogs barking at night, unsightly structures being erected and general loss of privacy to neighbouring dwellings. This site was not approved by the planning authority and enforcement action was commenced to have these caravans removed.

12. RODENT CONTROL

The Council continued to make free poison bait available for treatment to domestic properties. Farms are being treated by private operators or the occupiers. Minor infestations have occurred on Council refuse tips, but these have been dealt with expeditiously, and not allowed to spread.

13. FOOD PREMISES AND FOOD INSPECTION

Food Premises - The premises are summarised as follows -

Butchers Shop	1
Bakery	1
Grocery Stores	7
Public Houses	8
School Canteens	6

Inspections 46

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16

No. of premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream	11
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No. of premises registered for the preparation and sale of sausages etc.	1
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24

One additional premises was registered during the year for the storage and sale of ice cream. Only prepacked ice cream is sold at these premises.

Meat Inspection

There are no licensed slaughter-houses in the district. All meat retailed from butchers shops or vans coming into the district, is slaughtered outside the district and inspected before it leaves the slaughterhouse.

Mill Supply

All dairy premises in the district are occupied by producer/wholesalers and come under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture. Retailers operating in the area have their dairy premises outside the district.

14. FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections
(i) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	7	7
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A.	10	20
TOTAL	17	27